



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICATION NUMBER 08/694,598	FILED DATE 08/09/97	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT PERSHLY-DOLPHIN	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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24M1/0811

CANNEY, V

EXAMINER
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2413

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER 7
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DATE MAILED:

8/11/97

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ This action is FINAL.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☒ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

The following is a quotation of 35 USC §103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under subsection (f) or (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art. Applicant differs from the admitted prior art by expanding the number of channels of member 17. This would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art desiring to increase the number of components that could be tested.

Applicant further differs from the prior art by vertically stacking member 17. This is a common technique to increase capacity, e.g., octopuses are commonly employed in electrical receptacles to increase the number of devices that can be serviced by a single outlet.

Additionally, applicant dedicates one channel to ID information whereas the prior art is silent with respect to this feature. Consider the situation where the ID is accessed on a random channel. In such a situation, all channels will have to be polled in order to determine the ID. This will cause an unnecessary delay in the time required to test the device and one of ordinary skill in the art would realize that, if the ID information were available on a dedicated channel, it could be retrieved more quickly and the testing time thereby reduced.

SN: 8/694,595  
Applicant: Deroux-Dauphin

Powers et al. was cited to show vertically stacked controllers. See figure 1.



703-305-9600 (8:30-5:00 Mon-Fri) Administrative Inquiries  
703-305-9682 (6:30-5:00 Mon-Thur) Examiner  
703-305-9713 (7:30-4:00 Mon-Fri) SPE Robert Beausoliel  
703-305-9724 Informal Facsimile transmissions  
703-308-9051 Official Facsimile transmissions

August 6, 1997

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Canney', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**VINCENT P. CANNEY**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 2413**